

# DWIGHT'S AMERICAN MAGAZINE, AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

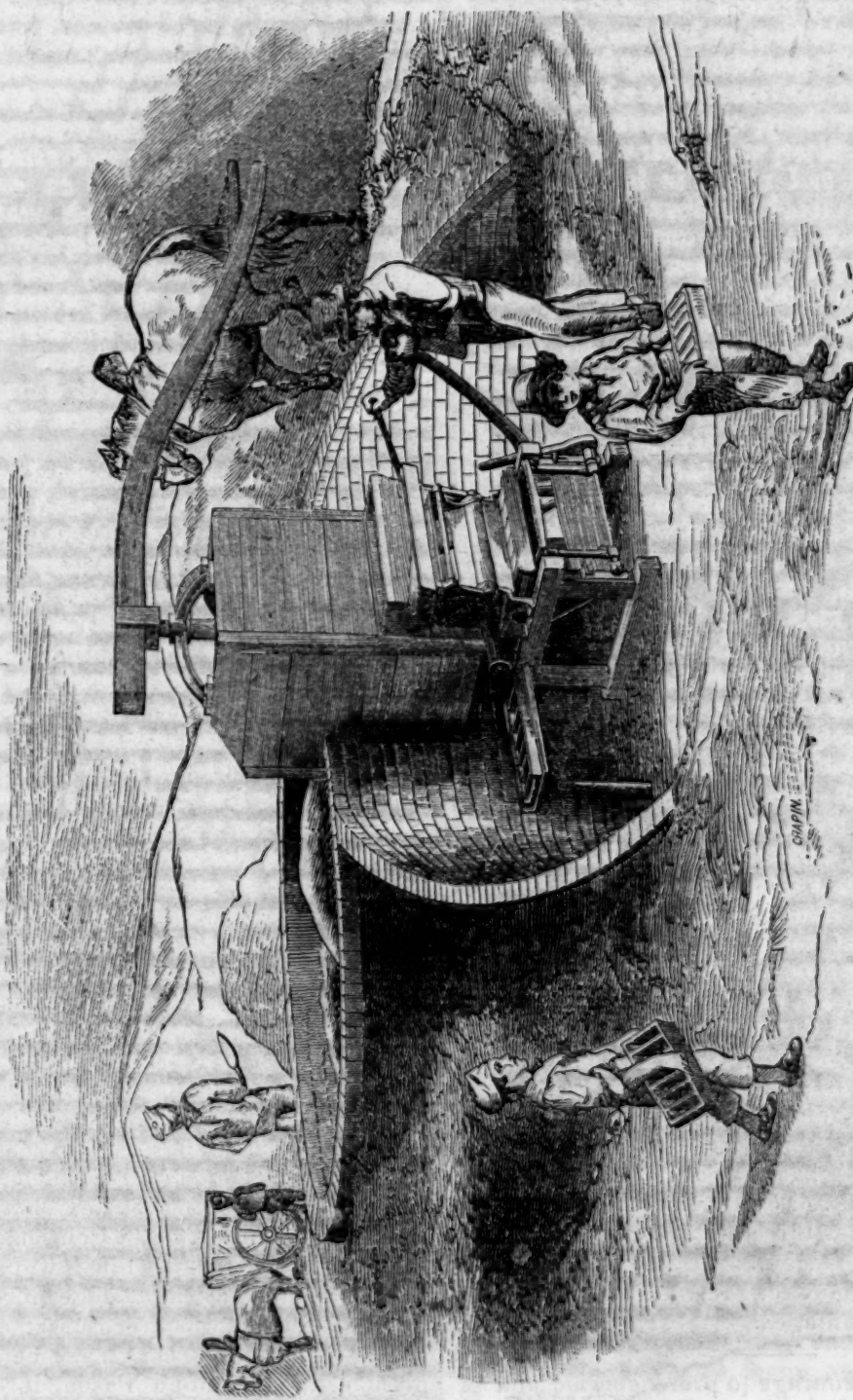
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NO. 19.



HALL'S BRICK-MAKING MACHINE.

This appears to us one of the most important machines we have ever seen, designed not to make a new object, but to facilitate the making of an old one, of great and extensive use, and hitherto formed by much labor and by a much slower process. It is the more gratifying to contemplate, because it tends to improve the dwellings of many families, by cheapening one of the best materials.

Almost every person has seen bricks made in the old way, or has heard a description of the process. Clay is thrown into a circular enclosure, like a large tub, about two feet deep, and fifteen or twenty feet in diameter, and a pair of oxen are driven round and round in it, until the mass is well mixed together. This is a laborious process, and one which we have often regretted to see those useful and obedient animals required to perform. A great improvement has been heretofore made in this part of brick-making, by using a smaller tub, of greater height, with a revolver, to stir up the mass. But, we turn to Hall's machine :

From such a tub the clay passes through an opening in the bottom, into a long trough, the bottom of which is formed of a frame divided into about a dozen compartments, each of the form of a brick. The man, with his hand, turns the long lever, which forces down a strong plank upon the clay, and thus fills all the moulds at once ; then raising that lever, by a motion of the other the process is completed, the clay being cut off smooth from the top, and the frame slides out in front, while an empty one, of the same dimensions, is put into its place, to be submitted the next moment to the same process, and then to change places with the former.

Attendants receive the frames as they are delivered by the machine, and, carrying them to a dry and smooth floor, prepared for the purpose, leave them to be dried in the sun, preparatory to their being laid together in the kiln for burning.

More need hardly be said on the advantages offered by this machine, which enables two or three men to perform the work of several, by an ingenious application of lever power, and the combination of other advantages.

Have the courage to prefer comfort and propriety to fashion, in all things.—SEL.

### The Arabs.;

ALEPPO, FEB. 6, 1847.

A caravan of 160 camels, coming from Bagdad to Aleppo, under the escort of 100 Arabs of the Aghezl tribe, was stopped on the 8th of January by the Bedouins of the Desert, at Zoar, four days' journey from Aleppo, and one on this side of Deir, on the Euphrates. The sheik of the Bedouins sent word immediately to the Aleppo merchants, to whom the goods were addressed, that he had stopped the caravan, and required them to come and ransom their merchandise, for 20,000 piastres. The owners of the caravan consulted with the pasha ; and after some fruitless attempts to make an arrangement with the sheik, which would be more accordant with the dignity of the pasha and the merchants, and attended with less risk to the persons of the latter, two small Turkish traders set out for Zoar with the required sum. 125 of the camels were laden with Persian tobacco, 34 with dates, and one with Persian silk.

When the merchants arrived at the sheik's tent they were required immediately to pay down their 20,000 piastres, as an indispensable preliminary to business. Having done this, they were met by the unsatisfactory intelligence that of the 160 loads only 46 remained, the rest having been dispersed through the Desert in different directions. Bitter and violent were the exclamations of the merchants against the bad faith of the sheik, and strenuous but ineffectual their exertions to recover a portion of the ransom, paid upon the understanding that all the loads were to be restored. At last they departed to return to Aleppo with all they could get—their 46 loads.

But they had not proceeded a day upon their journey with this diminished caravan before they were attacked by another tribe of Bedouins, who took possession of their persons and camels. The sheik of this fresh tribe sent, as the other sheik had done, a message to the pasha, declaring that he had seized the caravan, and should detain the two merchants and their goods until the person of one of their sheiks, of high rank, whom the pasha detained as a hostage for their good behaviour, was given up and restored to them. This sheik had been taken prisoner by Mahmoud Pasha during an expedition which he had made against



the Arabs last summer. After some disputing, finding the Arabs stick to their demand, the pasha, unable to get the better of them by force, consented to deliver up the sheik into the keeping of the mitsellim, who is in the habit of treating with the Bedouins, and is well known to them. Here the matter for the present rests. How to manage the Arabs is a question which presents a good deal of difficulty. But at least the Turkish mode of dealing with them seems not very judicious. This is to use what little influence they have over these wild tribes for the purposes of dissension and distraction.

[*London Times.*]

### China.

A LITERARY EXAMINATION.—The literary examinations for this department have just closed. For two weeks the city has been crowded with strangers, some of whom come to be examined for their first literary degree, and others come to profit by the increase of trade arising from the influx of strangers. Another class, and it seems to be by no means the smallest, consist of those who have already obtained their degree, who have come to assist their friends, or any one who is willing to pay them for their trouble, to obtain the same honour. They enter the hall together with the candidates, and enter as such, but instead of writing a good thesis for themselves, they write the best they can for their respective employers, and then a rough one, which will of course be rejected, to be handed in their own name. The candidates enter the hall early in the morning and retire in the evening, each district being examined separately on different days. Before entering, the candidates are searched to prevent any books being carried in.

The hall is a large building, or rather a large room—capable of seating two thousand persons. Indeed it is properly a mere court, covered with a roof, and is paved with stone. It is provided with benches, arranged as in a school room, the high ones to write upon, and the low ones to sit upon, being of precisely the same form. Connected with the hall is a suite of apartments provided for the examining officer during his temporary abode in the city, but often appropriated to other high mandarins temporarily visiting the city. Several thousand candidates appear annually; two thousand, it

is said, from the single district of Ningpo. As the number of degrees that can be conferred is limited, being fixed for each district, and seldom exceeding thirty for the largest district, the number of unsuccessful aspirants is of course very great. There is no rule, however, to prevent a man from entering the lists as often as he pleases, and as a failure is not regarded as a disgrace, the more ambitious often present themselves many years in succession, in hopes that some lucky hit may make them possessors of the coveted honour. [*Miss. Chron.*]

CHINESE KITES.—In our evening walk on the wall we saw a curious specimen of the kites they use. Looking at it from the front, it had precisely the appearance of an enormous worm, twenty or thirty feet in length, with long tentacula stretching out on each side. It was black on the back and white underneath, and the whole representation was horribly natural. To see it wriggling about in the air, its tail floating aloft, and its enormous head moving about as if in search of its prey, and apparently just ready to drop upon you, might call forth an involuntary shudder from one of ordinary strength of mind. It was composed of elliptical pieces of stiff paper attached at short intervals, to a string, with light strips of bamboo passed through them to constitute the feelers. A common form of the kite is that which is so cut as to resemble a large bird on the wing. The delusion is sometimes so perfect that it requires some scrutiny to distinguish the kite from the bird when both are seen together. The wings are sometimes constructed of light silk, and so attached as, with a little management, to flap like a bird flying. To lend a greater interest to this sport, it is common to attach an Æolian harp, which gives forth a loud musical sound, so that we are sometimes entertained for days with the music of three or four kites.—*Ib.*

Cheerfulness, unaffected cheerfulness, a sincere desire to please and be pleased, unchecked by any efforts to shine, are the qualities you must bring with you into society, if you wish to succeed in conversation. Under the influence of their recommendation, you may safely give the reign to fancy and hilarity.—*Art of Conv.*

### Death of the Duke of Northumberland.

In the peerage of England there are 20 Dukes, their order of precedence being, of course, regulated by the dates of their respective patents; and within four of the bottom of that distinguished list stands the representative of the ancient house of Percy, taking rank immediately before the Duke of Wellington. But, though the deceased peer did not stand high in the roll of his order, fortune bestowed upon him perhaps as long a rent-roll, and estates more ample and less encumbered, than belonged to any member of the English aristocracy. The deceased peer was one of twins; he never possessed a robust constitution, and he did not attain a very advanced period of life. He was born on the 17th of April, 1785, and at the time of his death had, therefore, not completed his 62d year.

At a very early age the Duke, then bearing the courtesy-title of Earl Percy, went to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took the degree of A.M. in 1805, and that of LL.D. in 1809. Every reader will be prepared to learn that a man of his rank obtained a seat in the House of Commons immediately on his attaining sufficient age to qualify him for that trust. Buckingham was the first place represented by the future Duke of Northumberland. As a politician he enjoyed all the merit of undeviating consistency; he began his life as a Tory and a supporter of the Protestant constitution, and every vote and wish of his was to maintain the settled constitution of these realms as it existed when his own political career commenced. He was, however, by no means indifferent to social meliorations; the poor on his own estates were carefully provided for, and his sympathies with suffering humanity, even extended to his African negro; for we find that his maiden speech, delivered in the House of Commons on the 2d of February, 1806, was that of an earnest advocate for the abolition of the slave trade. The death of Mr. Fox took place soon after the late Duke entered the House of Commons, and that event created a vacancy in the representation of Westminster, which Lord Percy was elected to fill. As member for that most important city he continued to sit only till the next general election. He did not again present himself to the constituency

of Westminster, but came in for the borough of Launceston, where his family interest commanded a predominating influence. In 1807 he was returned without any contest for the county of Northumberland, and continued to be its representative until very near the close of the Percival Administration.

It was on the 17th of March, 1812, five years before the death of his father, that Lord Percy was summoned by writ to the Upper House. The records of the representative branch of the Legislature present no striking evidences of his industry as a politician or his talents as a statesman. He was a man whose intellect and attainments procured for him a very moderate degree of respect, and nothing could be more obvious than that if he had not been "born great," he was not very likely to have "achieved greatness." When the subject of this memoir was a young man, the dread of foreign invasion led to a very extensive armament of yeomanry and volunteers. The force which bore the designation of the Percy tenantry deserved to be called almost an army. It comprehended a body of horse artillery, six troops of cavalry, and 17 companies of infantry, which were clothed, appointed, and maintained at the expense of the second Duke. The command of this force was intrusted to the then Lord Percy. That he was popular with that corps will readily be supposed, and there is probably nothing very extraordinary in the fact, that on his elevation to the House of Peers the regiment of the Percy tenantry presented him with a superb sword.

From the time that he took his seat in the House of Peers till his marriage, little remains to be related respecting the sayings or doings of Hugh, Earl Percy. When he had reached the 32d year of his age he ceased to be a bachelor. The Lady Charlotte Florentia Clive, second daughter of Edward, first Earl Powis, became the partner of his life. Their union took place on the 20th of April, 1817, her Ladyship being then in the 30th year of her age. Having at all times enjoyed the reputation of great good sense, much amiability, and many accomplishments, she was at the proper time appointed governess to the Queen, which office she held until Her Majesty reached that period of life which rendered such services



superfluous. Although Lady Charlotte Clive, in due time Duchess of Northumberland, was well born and well dowered, yet there can be no doubt that for any lady in this land an alliance with the lord of Alnwick Castle would be a signal advancement in life, for no man enjoyed higher titles, more superb residences, or finer estates. He was to be Duke and Earl of Northumberland, Earl and Baron Percy, Baron Lucy, Poynings, Fitzpayne, Bryan, Latimer, and Warkworth. He was to be the owner of Alnwick, Warkworth, and Keilder Castles, in the county of Northumberland, of Werrington park, in Cornwall, and of Sion house, in Middlesex.

He was through his maternal descent, the representative of the old Earls of Northumberland,—of that Manfred, the Dane, who made irruptions into France in the ninth century, and whose posterity, settling in Normandy, took their name from the domain of Percy, in that province. William de Percy, with his brother Serle, accompanied William the Conqueror to England, and obtained from that monarch a grant of 86 manors in Northumberland, and 32 in Lincolnshire, and of course became a baron. The ninth in succession from him was created Lord Percy of Alnwick, and the fourth Lord Percy was, at the coronation of Richard II., advanced to the earldom of Northumberland, with a barony in free transmissible to heirs female as well as male. The eleventh Earl of Northumberland died without male issue in 1670; he had an only daughter, who became his sole heiress, and she succeeded to the baronial honours only. The sixth Duke of Somerset became her husband, and their son, the seventh Duke of Somerset, having been summoned to Parliament as Baron Percy, was created Earl of Northumberland, with remainder, in case he had no male issue, to his son-in-law, Sir Hugh Smithson, Bart., who had married his Grace's daughter, the Lady Elizabeth Seymour, and who in due course succeeded to the earldom on the demise of the Duke in 1750, obtaining in the same year an act of Parliament to allow himself and his Countess to assume the arms and name of Percy. His Lordship was created Duke of Northumberland on the 22d of October, 1766. The Smithsons are an old Yorkshire family, the first baronet of the line receiving his title on the

2d of August, 1660. Hugh, the second Duke, eldest son of the first, married a sister of the Earl of Bute, by whom he had no family, and from whom he was divorced. Secondly, he espoused Frances Julia, third daughter of Peter Burrell, Esq., of Beckenham, in the county of Kent. These were the parents of the noble Duke whose life and character now engage our attention. His twin-sister was the Lady Agnes Percy, who married Colonel Buller, of Penlynt, in Cornwall. On the 10th of July, 1817, the second Duke of the Smithson line died, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. The noble peer just deceased immediately succeeded to the honours and estates, which he lived to enjoy during the long period of 30 years.

Of the House of Lords he was by no means a distinguished member. He usually voted or gave his proxy to the leader of the Tories for the time being; but he scarcely ever took any part in the business or deliberations of Parliament.

In the year 1825 Charles X. of France was crowned with all the splendour and gaiety which mark every public ceremonial in that country. Upon this memorable occasion the Duke of Northumberland was appointed to represent the Majesty of England. The expenses of that "embassy extraordinary" were wholly defrayed from the Duke's private purse; yet his superb equipages and the magnificent array of his attendants quite outshone the splendour displayed by the Minister of the Czar, or even by the representatives of the Imperial Crown of Austria. But it is said that the Duke could not utter a word of French, to the great horror of the Parisians, who scarcely believed that a man possessed any knowledge whatever, who had neglected to cultivate their own polished dialect. Neither could they be taught to imagine that any subject to the British Crown possessed sufficient wealth to render the expenses of such an embassy a matter of trifling consideration. The amount of his Grace's disbursements on this occasion may be estimated from the fact that Parliament voted a sum of 10,000*l.* to purchase a diamond-hilted sword as a present to his Grace, in order to mark their high sense of the manner in which he had maintained the dignity of his Sovereign at the French Court. In the year 1829 the Duke of Northumberland

was selected by the Duke of Wellington to succeed the Marquis of Anglesey in the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; the Duke, of course, gave his entire sanction to the Orange party, and was, therefore, viewed with aversion by the Roman Catholics, but he possessed neither the talents nor the energy to make himself thoroughly hated, and so he continued in a quiet sort of way to administer the Government of Ireland, until Lord Grey became First Minister, when the noble Marquis whom he had succeeded in turn replaced him. Although the Government allowance to his Grace, while Viceroy of Ireland was reduced by 7,000*l.* a year, yet the splendour of the vice-regal court was rather increased than diminished during his administration.

His Grace had for sometime before his death been labouring under the effects of influenza, but no apprehension was entertained by his friends that the malady would terminate fatally. On Thursday morning, however, one of his attendants entered his sleeping apartment at the usual hour, and receiving no answer to his inquiries, became alarmed and called in others of the domestics, when it was discovered that the Duke was dead. His Grace is succeeded in his title and estates by Lord Prudhoe, who is next brother to the deceased Duke, and who, until the year 1816, was known by the title of Lord Algernon Percy.—*London paper.*

**THE CALMUCK TARTARS.** — Calmuck women ride better than the men. A male Calmuck on horseback looks as if he was intoxicated, and likely to fall off every instant, though he never loses his seat; but the women sit with more ease, and ride with extraordinary skill. The ceremony of marriage among the Calmucks is performed on horseback. A girl is first mounted, who rides off at full speed. Her lover pursues; and if he overtakes her, she becomes his wife, returning with him to his tent. But it sometimes happens that the woman does not wish to marry the person by whom she is pursued, in which case she will not suffer him to overtake her; and we were assured that no instance occurs of a Calmuck girl being thus caught, unless she has a partiality for her pursuer.—*Dr. Clarke's Travels in Russia, &c.*

### Happy Families.

The first words of advice to parents, in a newspaper which we opened the other day, were so sensible, and so important, that, although something called off our attention at the moment, and prevented us from reading further, they have since returned to mind, and always with pleasure, they were these:

"Let every member of the family always have something to do."

And this advice we beg leave respectfully to offer to those of our readers, who have the management of the young, whether in the family or in the school, the field, or the workshop, or the store; and to those also who, like ourselves, have it in their power sometimes to suggest occupations to others, to teach, or to show them by example, to employ their time well; or who can give them means or opportunities for performing this great object of life.

"I would be glad to stay with him," said a young man, the other day, in our hearing; "if he would only give me something to do. He wants me to sit still in his store, and answer a question now and then, when anybody comes in. I can't bear to do it. All I want is work, and I should not care how hard." Truly, we were never made to be happy in doing nothing; and a regular occupation has advantages peculiar to itself. Dr. Johnson regretted two things, in his latter years: 1st That he had not formed friends among the young, to take the places of his old companions, and 2d, That he had no profession, or regular business, and therefore had been obliged to be continually seeking for something to do. Whoever has experienced the evils of the latter misfortune must have realized, that such a life condemns one daily to double labor; and that the work of finding business is often more painful and laborious than that of doing it. The person who has a regular, set task awaiting him every day, is saved all this part of the trials of life.

In a family, how obvious the advantage of a systematic and appropriate arrangement and distribution of occupations! Work, study and recreation! How each will be welcomed in its turn; how cheerfully and well will each be performed; and how harmonious and successful will be the operations of every day and hour!



A friend of ours was driven by the misfortunes of a past year, and the decline of health among the rest, to a country residence; and a band of five daughters, with admirable spirit, were soon gracing with their smiles, and cheering with their finest city-songs, a humble farm house, in a retired, but charming rural scene in New Hampshire. The whole routine of country life was studied with interest, the business of the dairy was soon understood by them all, sufficiently to begin to occupy themselves in different operations, in company with hired persons of more experience; and the other branches of business, on which the family were in future to depend for subsistence, were specially entrusted to particular hands. The father and mother, instead of being borne down by their discontent, were hourly cheered by the good humor and affectionate manners of those amiable daughters; and the description given of that remote but happy household, by the father, whose health, condition and prospects were soon much improved, was so animated and gratified, that the few lines in which we have attempted to repeat it, are quite inadequate, we fear, to give our readers any just idea of it.

Unhappily a false taste prevails extensively among us, unfavorable to domestic enjoyments; and we need not be surprised, however we may be shocked, if we see hundreds more of our young women useless and miserable, and thousands of our young men abandoned to ignorance and vice. It is encouraging to observe, that the purer scenes of country life are still, to a considerable degree, kept from fashionable folly and contamination. Thousands of our farmers' families are daily practising the habits of our simple, intelligent and virtuous ancestors; and, so long as we have good and sensible parents remaining, we hope they will adhere to some of the good old rules in their family arrangements, and thus bring up at least a few of our successors like rational beings, for the benefit of themselves and others.

At the last meeting of the Farmer's Club we found some of our old rural associations awakened in a very pleasing manner, by an account of the processes practised at the present day in the manufacture of cheese in the county of Herkimer, the best cheese-making district in this state. On another page we shall

give such an abstract of this description as we were able to write down from the lips of Mr. Wakeman, the gentleman who obligingly presented his valuable facts to the Society.

#### Woman's Kindness.

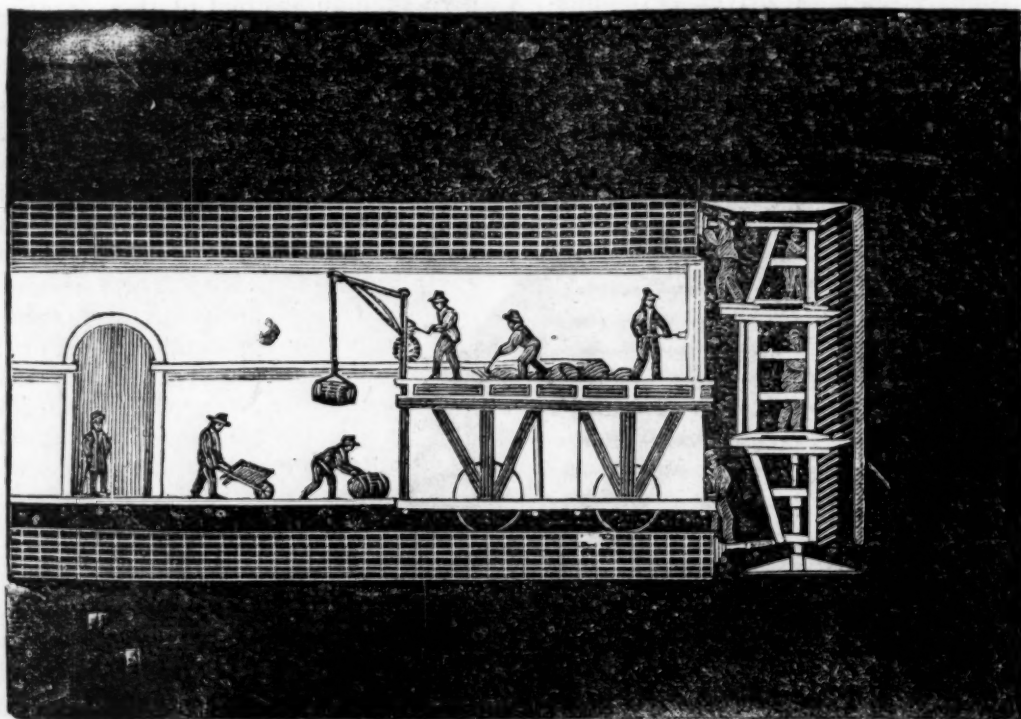
F. Grummet, member of Parliament, relates the following incident which occurred while he was passing through a small village near Rochefort, (France), as a prisoner under a military escort:

"I had obtained a fresh supply of canvass for my feet, which were much blistered, and extremely sore; but this was soon worn out, and I suffered dreadfully. About noon we halted in the market place of a small town, bearing every mark of antiquity—I think it was Melle—to rest and refresh. To escape the sun, I took my seat on an old tea chest, standing in front of a huckster's shop, and removed my tattered moccasins. While doing this, an elderly lady came out of the shop, accompanied by a young girl very prettily dressed; and "Pauvre garçon!" "Pauvre prisonnier!"—were uttered by both. The girl with tears in her eyes, looked at my lacerated feet, and then without saying a word, returned to the house. In a few minutes she reappeared; but her finery had been taken off, and she carried a large bowl of warm water in her hands.

In a moment the bowl was placed before me; she motioned me to put in my feet, which I did, and down she went upon her knees, and washed them in the most tender manner. Oh! what a luxury was that half hour! the elder female brought me food, while the younger, having performed her office, wrapped up my feet in soft linen, and then fitted on a pair of her mother's shoes.

"Hail, woman, hail! last formed in Eden's bowers,  
'Mid humming streams, and fragrance-breathing flowers,  
Thou art, 'mid light and gloom, through good and ill!  
Creation's glory—man's chief blessing still.

During the process above mentioned, numbers had collected round, and stood silently witnessing so angelic an act of charity. "Eulalie" heeded them not; but when her task was finished, she raised her head and a sweet smile of gratified pleasure beamed on her face.—SEL.



EXCAVATION OF THE THAMES TUNNEL.

We have endeavored, in our descriptions of the operations of the Thames Tunnel in former numbers, to give our readers distinct ideas of the truly ingenious expedients applied by scientific and persevering men, to the numerous obstacles which were to be encountered in the subterranean enterprise. To persons accustomed to the application of machinery, or familiar with the curious inventions of art, such explanations may be in a degree superfluous: but we are confident, that the majority of our readers will think it rather an advantage to have the subject presented somewhat in detail, and in detached portions, rather than with extreme brevity, and the use of technical terms not altogether intelligible to them.

In a former paper we presented a side view of one of the frames, or sections of the Shield. Here we have to invite the reader's attention to the same object, though on a diminished scale, accompanied with a view of a part of the gallery adjoining, the better to exhibit the way in which the workmen carried on their various tasks by its aid. Two miners are seen excavating, in the two upper divisions of the frame, on the right; while a bricklayer is busy in extending the vaulted roof. An overseer stands in a gateway between the galleries, directing the

laborers, two of whom are rolling in materials to be used in the construction of the walls. At the same time the use of the movable stage may be clearly understood at a glance, where one man is raising a barrel of lime by a windlass and crane, and another mixing cement.

Now when we recollect that there were twelve such frames as this in the shield, and what a number of men were employed in them, with the assistants who attended on them, we must be struck with the amount of labor daily devoted to this great enterprise.

No wonder then that the progress was rapid, when no extraordinary obstacle was presented. The men with pickaxes are the miners or diggers. The others, with trowels, are bricklayers. Unhappily it was not long that they were able to proceed without interruption.

On the 18th of May, 1827, when the tunnel had been excavated and constructed 400 feet beneath the bed of the river, the ground overhead being loose, and unable to sustain the weight, it burst through, in spite of the resistance presented by the shield, and soon flooded the two galleries.

Bags of clay were carried out and sunk in the river at the place where the bed had been broken through.





THE AMERICAN TURKEY)

A short time ago we gave a print of the Turkey, copied from an English work on Natural History, but with the remark that, it was not a correct portrait of the bird as we see him in this country, especially in his native wild state. We know not the original of that drawing with certainty, but presume it owes its defects to the ignorance or carelessness of some artist, in designing or copying. These have given rise to many false pictures of animals, which have had effects in several ways. The person who has seen a print or a painting of the kind, is first injured by getting false ideas of the object, which are often lasting. If he afterwards has his views corrected, he learns a lesson which renders him suspicious in future, so that he is less inclined to trust the representations of other pictures.

Accomplished students of natural history had loudly protested, in our presence, against re-copying, and thus perpetuating, the ignorant drawings of beasts, birds, fish, reptiles and insects, which are so numerous and familiar. The evil is continued by the indifference felt by editors and publishers of encyclopædias and certain other works, which too generally prevents them from procuring

correct drawings. The evil, however, is also justly chargeable to the public, who are too ignorant to regard the subject in its real importance.

Our present figure of the turkey may be relied upon as correct. It possesses much of what artists call 'the point,' that lively resemblance which marks the individual or species with its own spirit. The turkey has one peculiarity, by which alone it might be recognised: that is, a tuft or tassel of coarse, straight, black hair, resembling that on a horse's main, growing from the breast and hanging down several inches. The use of this appendage it seems impossible to conjecture with any plausibility. The same may be said of the long fleshy pendent, which grows from the front of the head, or root of the upper bill, of the male bird, and lying upon the latter, hangs down from it, sometimes on one side and sometimes on the other. Almost the whole extent of our country, even the parts now most populous, were formerly haunts of this fine and valuable fowl. They naturally lead a migrating life, changing their places of abode with the season in search of different kinds of food. But, being unable to fly far, they are compelled to travel on foot, and pur-

sue their way as they best can, over different surfaces and across various regions. A moment's reflection will be sufficient to discover, that the settlement of a tract of country lying within their range must offer serious impediments to animals of such peculiar nature and habits. Wild turkeys may indeed continue to traverse districts long after civilized man has erected his houses, laid out his roads, and enclosed his fields; but a thickening population multiplies obstacles and dangers to the wild turkey so fast, that the species becomes rarer and rarer, until at no distant day it disappears. Sometimes, however, these birds appear in the midst of old settlements, in a manner that cannot easily be accounted for. Not many years ago, six were killed at one shot on Mount Holyoke, near Northampton.

The scene is materially changed, in our older states, since the wild turkey rambled at will and almost without annoyance, through the meadows and uplands, across hills and valleys. He has been succeeded by a tame, harmless, and contented progeny, who find their lot so easy and their food so liberally provided by man, that the only migrations they perform are at his bidding. In the autumn, and early in the winter, thousands of turkeys annually take up their travels, from different points, towards our towns and cities; for such is the consumption of their delicate flesh at that season, especially at Thanksgiving and Christmas, that hundreds of persons devote their time to raising of the fowls and driving them to market.

**LOOM FOR CYLINDRICAL CLOTH.**—A very curious piece of mechanism, in the shape of a loom for weaving cloth in a cylindrical form, and suitable for bagging, has been invented by Mr. Henry Pease, of Clarkson, N. Y. The cloth made by this loom is in the right form for meal bags, and without seams. The peculiarity of the loom is such as to admit of two sets of warps, so arranged that when the shuttle has passed through between the two halves of the upper warp, it is returned between the two halves of the lower warp, and the two warps being kept in contact with each other, the two webs are united at both edges, thus forming a continuous hose. The invention is original, and we think the patent, therefore, must prove valuable.—*Sci. American.*

**MEANS OF PRESERVING LIFE IN CASE OF SHIPWRECK.**—Having read in the papers the average loss of life by shipwreck, said to amount to 1,600—and the amount given recently of wrecks on our own coast appears to confirm the statement—I have a plan to suggest for the preservation of life; and as the number of vessels in the Mercantile Navy is so much greater than in the Royal Navy, and casualties more frequent, from their constant exposure to all weathers, I avail myself of your widely circulated journal to make my plan known to those whom it so much interests. The present means of saving life are very limited, and frequently lodged at a distance from the scene of distress, the crews therefore perish before assistance is afforded. The plan I propose is, to place the means of safety in the crew itself, when the vessel is stranded, by allowing every ship to be supplied with the following apparatus, of very trifling cost. Let a ribbed ball of (white painted) canvas, about sixteen inches diameter, filled with cork, be suspended to the stern; a reeled line is to be attached to the same, which line must be made to float, by a few balls of cork rove on the same; and in the time of need this ball is to be thrown overboard. As the wrecked vessel is generally cast on the lee shore, it must be expected that the ball will reach the land, driven by the same wind; and by this will be effected the desideratum of getting a rope ashore from the vessel. Although the foregoing plan is for immediate application, I would preserve the present means afforded, and would rather increase the same than diminish them. I beg to say that I have taken the opinion of the best seamen, who all approve of the plan. [*London Times.*]

**REVOLUTIONARY ARMY.**—"The number of regulars furnished to the revolutionary army were, by New England, 147,441; by the Middle States, 56,571; by the Southern States, 56,997. It appears by the above, that New England, consisting of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, furnished more troops for the defence of the country than the other nine States, by 3,972. The number of troops furnished by South Carolina was 6,448; Massachusetts, 67,907; Georgia, 2,607; Connecticut, 31,939."—*Vermont paper.*



### The Gum-Elastic, and its Ingenious Uses.

Among the wonders of the day may be justly classed the recent adaptation of the 'gum caoutchouc,' or India rubber, to very many purposes to which, within the last few years, it has been applied with success.

The gum itself is the coagulated juice of a class of tropical trees, of which the 'havea guianensis, the jatropha elastica, and the urceola elastica,' are the principal, and which are found in India and South America, though the chief supplies come to Europe and the United States from the latter quarter. It has been called India rubber, from its rubbing out the marks of the lead pencil upon paper. In South America, the Indians who procure it for exportation, do so by making an incision in the bark of the tree, smaller, but after the fashion of the 'box' cut in the turpentine tree of North Carolina, from which the fluid exudes. It is first of the color of milk, and quickly hardens, or rather becomes tough and elastic on exposure to the action of the sun. They endeavor as far as possible to keep their method of preparing it a secret, and give it the black color characterising most of the importations, by smoking it over a fire made of a peculiar wood—that which has the light color, and which is considered best to be worked up, being sundried. They, however, fancy that their manner of smoking it, which really injures the material for factory uses, gives it well nigh all its commercial value. They also smear it in thin layers over balls of clay, to make the bottle which they use for household purposes, and over clay shoe moulds, &c. It first found its way into Europe, in quantities, in 1736: but, we believe, no attempts to work it up upon an extensive scale were made earlier than some fourteen or fifteen years ago. This was undertaken in this country, and on the other side of the Atlantic, at about the same time.

In 1834-5, New England was the scene of an India rubber stock speculation mania, hardly second for the rage for speculation in the 'eastern lands' of Maine, which prevailed about the same time, and which was scarcely more disastrous in its consequences. It is said that perhaps a million and a half of dollars were sunk in fruitless experiments in preparing and applying the gum. It was at that time

dissolved in spirits of turpentine, and, being mixed with lampblack, was spread between two cloths, by way of making a water proof article. It was, however, found, that when the thermometer was at sixty in the shade, the temperature of the atmosphere alone was well nigh as perfect a solvent for the manufactured article as turpentine for the gum in its original state; for, whole warehouses full of goods manufactured by the speculators in winter, which then appeared just what was wanted, became a mass of muck in summer. The apparent impossibility of preventing this melting in warm weather, and also of preventing the preparation from stiffening in the cold, caused the failure of the numerous India rubber stock operations of that day.

In 1835, the now celebrated Goodyear, who had previously turned his attention to the subject, commenced experimenting in earnest, with the view to divest the material, when prepared, of its soluble qualities, and of those which caused it to stiffen in the cold. He set out in the belief that, if he could attain these ends, subsequent experience and study would enable him to adopt it successfully to almost innumerable uses. These experiments were first conducted in New York, afterwards in Connecticut, and finally, in Roxbury, Massachusetts, where an India rubber manufacturing company, that had been severely injured by the speculation, as a forlorn hope for retrieving their losses, offered him the use of their establishment, and the means of persevering to the end. For seven years he labored faithfully, satisfying no one but himself, however, that he was a step nearer to the realization of his hopes than when he abandoned everything else to chase this apparent chimera. With courage and patience worthy of his New England origin, he did persevere to the end. At the termination of seven years, gaining additional information by every successive experiment, he succeeded, in perfecting a more metallic gum composition which answered the long sought ends. With this discovery dates the real value of gum caoutchouc. Subsequently, however, he discovered and patented a kind of India rubber felt, which is now made into cloths an inch thick, or so thin as to be driving silk cloth out of use for some purposes. Thus prepared, the gum is nearly non-elastic. In perfecting this

particular article the inventor himself is said to believe he has achieved his great victory. It is made of raw cotton—not cloth—combined with the metallic fluid somewhat after the manner in which the hatters make hat bodies. We have seen several different articles made of it, from the thick substance necessary for seamen's charts down to notes of the New Haven county bank, some of which have been printed on it.

A stranger to the application of Goodyear's preparation would indeed be surprised on going into an establishment where articles made of it are sold. From ship's sail down to sheaths for pins to fasten children's clothes, and elegant and delicate articles of ladies' apparel, one will find a countless multitude of different things in the construction of which, but yesterday, as it were, leather, cotton, linen, silk, woolen, iron, wood, or tin was thought absolutely necessary.

There are now manufactured with complete success, top-sails for some of the New York and Liverpool line ships which, though the body is of the most inferior quality of cotton sail cloth, are found to be almost invaluable, because, in addition to their remarkable durability, they shed ice like glass, and do not stiffen with frost as do all other kinds of sail cloth. It is already applied successfully to supply the place of hair cloth and velvet for coverings to furniture—such as sofas and easy chairs. There are specimens of its application after this fashion to be seen at Coleman's Hotel in this city, which, if he has affected nothing more, should bring Mr. Goodyear great fame as inventor.

But the War Department is availing itself of the fruits of his labors so extensively, as for some time past to have kept sixteen factories working under his patents constantly employed. They are making for the United States ponton boats, (which, though light and portable, will ferry fifty men, it is said, at a time, and in perfect safety, it matters not what current they have to contend with,) tents, knapsacks, haversacks, provision bags, (to take the place of boxes and barrels,) ammunition sacks, water sacks and covers, and a great many similar articles for which, after a full and fair trial, this preparation has been found much better adapted than aught else. Floor cloths, instead of oil cloths, trunks, portman-

teaus and travelling bags; ship's mattresses, hose pipes, harness of all descriptions, buckets, piano and table covers; maps which exhibit the most delicate touches of the graver, with as much distinctness as the best qualities of drawing paper; kitchen utensils formerly made of tin or cast iron only; umbrellas, suspenders that have driven everything else almost entirely out of use; over-shoes, cloaks, and top-coats; gloves for handling vitriol, mail bags, &c., are also made of it. But we might fill a column with the bare enumeration of the purposes to which this preparation has been successfully applied within the last three years. Unlike Oliver Evans, whom friends are said to have considered worthy of a mad house because, in reply to their entreaties to turn his mind from experiments with steam, he insisted that in less than fifty years carriages would travel by steam at the rate of ten miles per hour; and unlike Whitney, who died before the application of his gin doubled the value of every acre of cotton land in the southern states, this inventor lives to witness the beneficial effects of his labors, and, we trust, to realize his fair portion of their profit to society. But this inventor has not alone benefitted his own country; for in this age of rapidly increasing international communication, Europe will not be slow to adopt what we find more economical and better suited to many industrial uses. As yet, no European has struck out in the same path, and this American's mechanical fame, therefore, bids fair to proceed with the application and use of the invention which, if it continues to advance as rapidly for twenty years, as for the last three, will in that time be found applied in almost every house in the Union to very many purposes. As most tropical plants of the fig genus produce the glutinous juice or sap from which the caoutchouc may be made, there is far less danger that the supply will not run apace with the growing demand, than that our own pine forests will eventually fail to afford turpentine in sufficient quantities to supply the market.

We have but the other day seen a description of a large gum elastic tree, which was found by our troops on the island of Lobos. It grows in Cayenne, the Brazils, and in great quantities in Paraguah. From this last country we may



look for copious supplies, as soon as our efforts to open an extensive commerce with that strange country, interior territory shall have succeeded, and as soon as greater facilities are secured by exempting the navigation of the rivers from the blockading restrictions imposed in consequence of war between Buenos Ayres and Montevideo. It is well worthy of consideration, whether the tree cannot be transplanted into our Southern States, Florida especially, and cultivated to a great extent.—It would furnish a new and lucrative material for one of our most ingenious and productive manufactures. Specimens of this extraordinary plant, with its uncommonly thick leaves, are to be found in our hot-houses; and the one which is growing in the green-house of the flower depository, attached to the Patent office, is the finest we have ever seen.

This country is much indebted to Mr. Goodyear for his great ingenuity in the application of the gum to so many manufacturing purposes. It is, however, no less profitable to himself than useful for many purposes. His patent right is extremely productive—brings him in a large income, and his interest in his inventions is said to be worth from two to three millions of dollars, perhaps more. We congratulate him on his success, and honor his efforts as another proof of the unparalleled inventive ingenuity of the freest people on the globe. This character of our countrymen, of which we witness so many proofs in the Patent office, and in the variety of specimens that are every year exhibited in Washington, from the most useful, common manufactures to the fine arts and to those splendid productions from the pencils of Rosseter and Powell, is at once the result and the embellishment of the free government we enjoy.—*Washington Union*.

**TIME LOST.**—One of the sands in the hour glass of time is, beyond comparison, more precious than gold. In nothing is waste more ruinous, or more sure to bring unavailing regrets. Better to throw away money than moments; for time is much more than money. As we lose our days, we incur an increasing risk of losing our own souls. 'The life-blood of the soul runs out in wasted time.' The years which have winged their flight, have gone to be recorded

above; and what is the 'report they have borne to heaven?' Will the record testify for or against us, when the throne of the Son of Man shall be set, and the books shall be opened?"—*Christian Observer*.

#### Canton de Vaud.

It appears that God is bringing good out of evil in this scene of persecution. For the first year, the pastors who resigned the connection with the Established Church, and for which they suffered so much, were well nigh deserted. But this year, a great and pleasing change has taken place. Parents are no longer afraid to send their children to Sabbath School, and the Free Churches are decidedly prospering. One of these churches numbers already ninety catechumens. The persecutors themselves seemed ashamed of their work, though not yet willing to make reparation. The last instance of persecution is, that several of the Free Church ministers, have been required to join the militia. The ministers refused to obey the summons, and in consequence two or three of them have already been cast into prison. Such acts of injustice and inhumanity inflict the deepest disgrace upon the Government, and the people who commit or encourage them, and must ultimately recoil upon the actors.—SEL.

**A GREAT BRIDGE.**—The Railroad bridge over the Susquehanna river at Harrisburg, just finished by the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company is an immense structure.

The entire length of the bridge is three thousand nine hundred and ninety-two feet, or within eight feet of four thousand. It is built on an improved double lattice plan; the invention of Mr. Kirkbridge himself; there being two single and two double segments of lattice. There are twenty-three spans averaging 173 feet, and two arched viaducts; one 53 feet, and the other 84 feet long. There are two carriage ways, above which, immediately under the roof, is the railway tract.

The entire cost of the bridge, as we are informed, is about \$95,000; of which about \$15,000 were required to repair the damages occasioned by the several accidents.—SEL.

MR. DAVISON'S INVENTION FOR CUR-  
ING PROVISIONS.*Concluded from page 287.*

It may be objected that there is an expense in the vacuum process not incurred in the ordinary one. In the ordinary process you cure and wait two months, and then repack, for inspection or to keep for family use. In the vacuum process you cure and pack, and are done; and the two packings of the ordinary mode are more expensive than the curing and packing of the vacuum process. Hence there is economy in capital and outlay, in time and expense subsequent to the first packing. To this is to be added, that the meat is better on account of the retention of its natural juices in a greater degree. Here all comparison between the two methods ends. The advantages of the vacuum process, beside, are all its own.

Hitherto, when meat got skippered or tainted it was lost; now it can be saved. If skippered, when placed in a vacuum in the cylinder, the skippers come to the surface of the meat, and perish for want of air. The meat is then taken from the cylinder, the skippers removed, and the meat returned to the cylinder and again charged with pickle, and is again perfect.

If meat be tainted, it is placed in the cylinder and charged with a weak solution of lime; taken out, dried, and returned to the cylinder, and again charged with pickle; and then it is difficult to distinguish it from sound meat.

Hams and bacon, old, blackened and spoiled in appearance, will not take in pickle by immersion; subjected to the vacuum process they may, and in a few hours, be restored to fresh appearance, and after smoking, be equal to new ones.

Meat just killed and warm may be put, in mid-summer, into the cylinder, and cured in twelve hours perfectly. By steeping it cannot be cured at all in warm weather; in the vacuum it may be at all seasons.

Beef cured in the vacuum is done and packed in a day, and has gained its full increase. Cured by steeping, it at once loses five per cent, and takes months to regain its loss and add the usual gain arising from packing.

In hot climates, meat cannot be cured by steeping at any season; by the vacuum it can in any climate at all seasons.

As in ordinary packing, sugar, spices, or acids may be added to the brine; but in the vacuum process they will be more perfectly taken up, and the meat more highly flavored.

The vacuum process is applicable to all kinds of meats; and all kinds of fluids may be infused into meats by it. A variety of antiseptics beside salt will preserve if they can be injected into meat; but before the meat could take them by steeping, it would be spoiled in any weather but the coldest, and in the coldest would be stale first. By the vacuum these may be injected at once, and the meat flavored by these peculiar preservative fluids.

To the West, it offers great facilities and economies, as the West is now the great meat-grower and packer.

But this invention is truly a great boon to the people of the South. They now bring their pork and beef from the west. Hereafter, they may cure them for themselves. Now, they cannot, with a certainty of keeping, even in winter. With Mr. Davison's process they may cure at all seasons. Hereafter, they may cure with safety and economy. They may thus become, not only their own pork and beef growers, but they may add pork and beef to their exports. Indeed, in time, it may fairly be predicted that the region of country on the gulf of Mexico will be the only country that can export pork and beef profitably. Her climate will grow it without expense, for her pastures are ever green; and her fields may ever be filled with pork-fattening esculents. In no region does a good hog do better than in a warm one. In the cotton and sugar region every planter may himself make all his bacon, for he is now able to cure it.

To families of farmers, living in the country, it offers the means of having fresh meat during the summer without waste, for what cannot be eaten fresh can be packed, and will be the best pickled meat, as it will be recently cured.

There is yet another view in which this invention will wonderfully serve farmers and planters. By it they can impregnate wood with salt, and the wood will be indestructible; or may turn it to stone measurably, and it shall yet be flexible, and can never rot and only be lost by wear. By it shingles for houses, and posts for fences, may be made indestruc-



tible. To do this it is only necessary to impregnate them with brine thoroughly. But it may be carried still further, and the wood turned wholly to stone; and thus—the wood is first charged with salt, then with sulphate of iron, and dried, then charged with a solution of muriate of lime; this latter, coming in contact with the sulphate of iron, decomposes the wood and forms an insoluble compound—sulphate of lime or gypsum. The wood then becomes stone, and yet retains toughness.

The chief merit of this apparatus is its extreme simplicity and the economy with which it operates. The solution of salt, or brine, which is used in most cases, both for curing meat and wood, is not costly. No more of it is expended than the meat or wood takes up; the balance is returned to the cistern and serves for another, or other operations. If a little sweetening matter or spices be added, the cost is not greatly increased, and for the other operations contemplated upon wood the same applies, for most of the required solutions are made from the cheapest ingredients. The apparatus, constructed of metal, will last for centuries. If it should get out of order, the rudest mechanic in the country can put it to rights. A boy of fourteen years of age can work it as well as a man. In fine, although many of the principles involved are not new ones, yet it so happens that no other apparatus heretofore invented rendered them of public utility, on account of great expense, while by this one, they can be made practically, cheaply useful.

Such are the benefits which will arise to the agricultural world from this invention. Of its power to serve commerce in ship-building, in the construction of railroads, bridges, &c., it is not here necessary to speak.

All that has been stated, is the result of actual experiment, and may be daily witnessed at Mr. Davison's packing establishment in Leroy street near West, and the truth of these representations tested. A view of the apparatus will surprise and gratify far more than the statements here made.—*American Agriculturist*.

**CUTTING APPLE AND PEAR SCIONS.**—These may be cut at any time between January and the time of setting. February and March are good months, in case

care is taken that the scions are well kept. They should not be buried in a wet place, and they must not be kept dry. Earth that is not very moist may be covered over them in the cellar, but the scions should be so spread out that the earth may come in contact with each one.

Scions cut at this season are set with more ease than such as are cut on the day of setting, for the bark is not so apt to peal. We have more leisure then to cut them carefully than we have in April or May.—*Mass. Ploughman*.

**HOW TO INCREASE THE FRUITFULNESS OF ORCHARDS.**—Alkaline or ammoniacal preparations have been applied to young trees, as well as old ones, for the purpose of stimulating their growth, and accelerating their fruitfulness, such as white-washing their trunks and branches, rubbing them with soapsuds, and spreading round their roots lime, gypsum, charcoal, soot, ashes, &c. If you apply it to vines, or to young apple trees, there is nothing that contributes more to make them bear an abundance of fruit; nor does this only produce a greater increase, but it also improves both the taste and flavour of the apples. [*Am. Agricul.*]

**WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS.**—One hundred parts of the stalks of wheat yield 15.5 parts of ashes. The same quantity of barley, 8.54; and oats only 4.42 parts. Thus as the demands of each of these plants for the alkaline elements of their growth is different, one may be raised on ground which may have ceased to produce the others; and this is what is daily witnessed: land refusing to yield wheat, and yet affording excellent crops of oats, the proportion of alkali required by which is so comparatively small compared with the demands of the wheat crop. How readily, then, may a good soil for oats be rendered productive in wheat by the simple addition of some alkaline dressing, all the other requisites of fertility having been before present. [*C. W. Johnson*].

**TO RENDER PAPER INCOMBUSTIBLE.**—Pound a quantity of alum in a mortar, add to it a small quantity of gunpowder, and dissolve the whole in three times its weight of water over a slow fire. Paper dipped 2 or 3 times while warm, and then dried, will be incombustible.—*SEL*.

## POETRY.

## Happy at Home.

Let the gay and the idle go forth where they will,  
In search of soft Pleasure, that syren of ill;  
Let them seek her in Fashion's illumined saloon,  
Where Melody mocks at the heart out of tune;  
Where the laugh gushes light from the lips of the maiden,  
While her spirit, perchance, is with sorrow o'erladen;  
And where, mid the garlands, Joy only should braid,  
Is Slander, the snake, by its rattle betray'd.  
Ah! no! let the idle for happiness roam,  
For me—I but ask to be "happy at home!"

At home! oh how thrillingly sweet is that word!  
And by it what visions of beauty are stirr'd!  
I ask not that Luxury curtain my room  
With damask from India's exquisite loom;  
The sunlight of heaven is precious to me,  
And muslin will veil it if blazing too free;  
The elegant trifles of Fashion and Wealth  
I need not—I ask but for comfort and health!  
With these, and my dear ones—I care not to roam,  
For, oh! I am happy, most 'happy at home!'

One bright little room where the children may play,  
Unfearful of spoiling the costly array;  
Where he, too—our dearest of all on the earth,  
May find the sweet welcome he loves at his hearth;  
The fire blazing warmly—the sofa drawn nigh;  
And the star-lamp a-light on the table close by;  
A few precious volumes—the wealth of the mind;  
And here and there treasured some rare gem of art,  
To kindle the fancy or soften the heart;  
Thus richly surrounded, why, why, should I roam?  
Oh! am I not happy—most 'happy at home!'  
[Mrs. F. Osgood.]

## ENIGMA.—No. 41.

I am composed of 20 letters.

My 1, 17, 3, 8, 5, 15, is a cape of South America.

My 2, 10, 11, 14, 17, 12, is a town in Africa.

My 3, 17, 11, 15, 18, is a bay in the southern part of Africa.

My 4, 14, 5, 6, 2, is an island on the coast of S. America.

My 5, 3, 17, 6, 15, 9, 10, is a county in Michigan.

My 6, 20, 17, 7, 8, 12, is a town in the U. States.

My 7, 17, 19, is a river in British America.  
My 8, 3, vowel, 10, is a settlement in British America.

My 9, 17, 7, 18, is a town in the Russian Empire.

My 10, 2, 13, 1, 18, is a town on the island of Nippon.

My 11, 7, 10, 14, 18, is a gulf in Europe.

My 12, 5, 6, 7, 20, 8, is a town in Sumatra.

My 13, 2, 6, 9, is a town in the Chinese Empire.

My 14, 10, 7, 11, 12, is a lake in Europe.

My 15, 16, 3, is a river in Russia.

My 16, 14, 8, 11, is a range of mountains in Africa.

My 17, 7, 20, is a county in Virginia.

My 18, 1, 3, 5, 15, is one of the Bahama Islands.

My 19, 14, 9, 16, 2, is a town in Africa.

My 20, 17, 1, 7, is a river in Europe.

My whole is the name of a lake in the U. States.

MARTIN F. TUTTIL.

## Solution of Enigma No. 40, Vol. III. p. 288.

—Pachgantschihiles: Platte, Acheen, Cloasets, Hecla, Ganges, Athens, Nain, Tiete, Staten, Cat, Helena, Ica, Wallh, Ispahan, Liege, East, Shiennes. M. F. T.

Seven Islands, Va.

## French Proverbs, Bon mots, &amp;c.—

7. Petits penseurs, grands mots; grands penseurs, petits mots.

8. Les sots, comme les oies sauvages, aiment à voyager en troupe. Le philosophe, au contraire, aime à s'élever solitaire dans les cieux pour planer au-dessus des préjugés et des opinions vulgaires.

## Translation of French Proverbs, &amp;c., page 283.—

5. With a clear style, there is no thought so deep of which the bottom cannot be seen.

6. When the highest officers in a republic are occupied with trifles of all kinds, men of talent who wish to rise, must pretend silliness.

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